22. (New) The cable according to claim 21, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 3% to about 20% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

23. (New) The cable according to claim 21, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 3% to about 15% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

24. (New) The cable according to claim 21, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 5% to about 10% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

25. (New) A method of manufacturing a metal sheathed mineral-insulated cable comprising, filling a metal sheath with at least one metallic conductor and a powdered mineral insulation filler comprising magnesium oxide and kaolin powder; and drawing down the sheath.

26. (New) The method according to claim 25, further comprising mixing the magnesium oxide and the kaolin powders to form the filler before the filling step.

Cl Cont

27. (New) A method of reducing a decrease in resistivity of a cable at elevated temperatures comprising, disposing at least one metallic conductor in a metallic sheath; filling the sheath with a powdered mineral insulation filler comprising a mixture of magnesium oxide and kaolin; and drawing down the sheath.

28. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 3% to about 20% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

29. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 3% to about 15% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

30. (New) The method according to claim 27, wherein the kaolin is present in an amount of about 5% to about 10% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.

31. (New) A method of preventing moisture infiltration to a cable comprising, disposing at least one metallic conductor in a metallic sheath; filling the sheath with a powdered mineral insulation filler comprising a mixture of particles of magnesium oxide and kaolin powder; and drawing down the sheath.

32. (New) The method according to claim 31, wherein the kaolin powder is present in an amount of about 3% to about 20% by dry weight in the mineral insulation.